

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, and 17 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 12, and 15 have been canceled by the present amendment.

This application is a divisional application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) of parent application Serial No. 09/816,378, filed on March 26, 2001, and includes non-elected Claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, and 17 of the parent application.

Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER, & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
David A. Bilodeau
Registration No. 42,325



22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220